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(54) **Expandable well screen**

(57) An expandable well screen (36) provides increased collapse, torsional and tensile strength. In an embodiment, the expandable well screen (36) includes a generally tubular base pipe (38) and an external filtering media (40). The well screen (36) is configured to have sufficient torsional and tensile strength for conveyance and positioning in a wellbore, while also having sufficient strength to prevent collapse when the screen (38) is radially expanded.

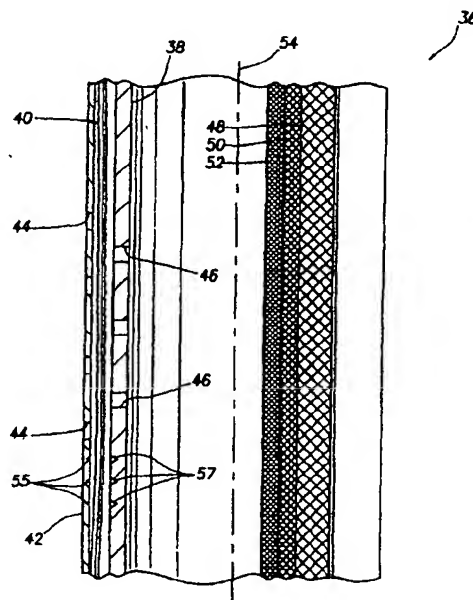


FIG.2

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS E21B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 19 April 2002	Examiner Schouten, A
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document</p> <p>T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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